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Summary record of the 17th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Friday, 7 November 2003, at 9.30 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Kmoníček ..... (Czech Republic)
Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions: Mr. Mselle

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The meeting was called to order at 9.45 a.m.

Agenda item 17: Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments

1. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to rule 92 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly concerning elections by secret ballot and to paragraph 16 of Assembly decision 34/401 on the same subject.

(e) Appointment of members of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal (A/58/105 and A/C.5/58/9)

2. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to document A/C.5/58/9, in which the Secretary-General informed the General Assembly of the names of two persons who had been nominated by their respective Governments for appointment or reappointment to the United Nations Administrative Tribunal. Since the number of candidates corresponded to the number of vacancies, he took it that the Committee wished to recommend by acclamation their appointments.

3. *It was so decided.*

4. *Mr. Barboza (Argentina) and Mr. Wijewardane (Sri Lanka) were recommended for appointment to the United Nations Administrative Tribunal for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2004.*

(d) Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee (A/58/104 and A/C.5/58/8)

5. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to document A/58/104, in which the Secretary-General informed the General Assembly of the need, in accordance with article 20 of the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, to confirm the appointments of the three persons whom he had designated to fill vacancies on the Investments Committee beginning on 1 January 2004. Since the number of candidates corresponded to the number of vacancies, he took it that the Committee wished to confirm by acclamation the appointment of the candidates in question.

6. *It was so decided.*

7. *Mr. Abdullatif (Saudi Arabia), Mr. Chico Pardo (Mexico) and Mr. Pillay (Singapore) were recommended for appointment to the Investments Committee for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2004.*

(c) Appointment of a member of the Board of Auditors (A/58/103 and A/C.5/58/7)

8. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to documents A/58/103 and A/C.5/58/7, in which the Secretary-General informed the General Assembly of the need to appoint the Auditor-General (or the officer holding the equivalent title) of a Member State to fill the vacancy that would arise on 30 June 2004 on the Board of Auditors, and that the Government of France had nominated the First President of the Court of Accounts of the French Republic for reappointment. Since there was only one nomination to fill the vacant post, he took it that the Committee wished to recommend by acclamation the appointment.

9. *It was so decided.*

10. *The First President of the Court of Accounts of the French Republic was recommended for appointment to the United Nations Board of Auditors for a six-year term beginning on 1 July 2004.*

(b) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions (A/58/102 and Add.1 and A/C.5/58/6 and Add.1)

11. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to a note by the Secretary-General (A/58/102) in which he referred to articles 158 and 159 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and invited the Assembly to appoint six persons to fill the vacancies that would arise in the membership of the Committee on Contributions on 31 December 2003. In documents A/C.5/58/6 and Add.1, the Secretary-General communicated the names of seven persons who had been nominated by their respective Governments for appointments or reappointments for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2004. Since the number of candidates from three regional groups, namely, the Group of African States, the Group of Asian States and the Group of Western European and Other States, corresponded to the number of vacancies, he took it that the Committee wished to recommend by acclamation their appointment or reappointment.

12. *It was so decided.*

13. *Mr. Akimoto (Japan), Mr. Al-Mansour (Kuwait), Mr. Getachew (Ethiopia) and Mr. Leis (United States of America) were recommended for appointment to the Committee on Contributions for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2004.*

14. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to rule 94 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and invited members to elect by secret ballot two of the three candidates from the Group of Eastern European States.

15. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Ms. Thorpe (Australia), Ms. Nieto (Ecuador) and Mr. Kabuku (Namibia) acted as tellers.*

16. *A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

Number of ballot papers:	181
Number of valid ballots:	181
Number of members voting:	181
Required majority:	91
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Dumitriu (Romania):	135
Mr. Humenny (Ukraine)	134
Mr. Zlatanov (Bulgaria)	80

17. *Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Dumitriu (Romania) and Mr. Humenny (Ukraine) were recommended for appointment to the Committee on Contributions for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2004.*

18. **The Chairman** drew attention to document A/58/102/Add.1, in which the Secretary-General informed the General Assembly of the resignation of Mr. Fox (Australia) from the Committee on Contributions and of the consequent need to appoint a person to fill the unexpired portion of his term of office, which expired on 31 December 2004. The Secretary-General also informed the Assembly that the Government of Australia had nominated Mr. Dutton, whose candidacy had been endorsed by the Group of Western European and Other States. He took it that the Committee decided by acclamation to recommend the appointment of the candidate.

19. *It was so decided.*

20. *The Committee recommended to the General Assembly the appointment of Mr. Dutton to membership of the Committee on Contributions for a term of office beginning on the date of his appointment and expiring on 31 December 2004.*

(a) Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/58/101 and Add.1, A/58/553 and A/C.5/58/5)

21. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to document A/58/101, in which the Secretary-General referred to rules 155 and 156 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and invited the Assembly to appoint five persons to replace the five members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions whose mandate was due to expire on 31 December 2003. In document A/C.5/58/5, the Secretary-General informed the Assembly of the nomination of nine persons, whose names he listed, by their respective Governments. However, in a note verbale dated 4 November 2003 from the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations, the Secretary-General had been informed that the Iranian Government had withdrawn the candidacy of Mr. Mirmohammad. Accordingly, the number of candidates had been reduced to eight.

22. **Mr. Pemagbi** (Sierra Leone), speaking in his capacity as Chairman of the African Group for the month of November 2003, drew the Committee's attention to a letter dated 6 November 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/58/553). The letter stated that it was common knowledge at the United Nations that African candidates to fill vacant seats in the various bodies of the Organization were chosen on the basis of the principle of equitable geographic distribution and rotation in the filling of seats, which guaranteed to all African States, irrespective of size, the possibility of participating in the various organs of the United Nations system. In observance of that objective principle, the three seats for Africa on the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions were distributed as follows: one seat for West Africa; one seat for East and Southern Africa occupied on a rotational basis; and one seat for Central and Northern Africa occupied on a rotational basis. The two seats to be filled in 2003 had been allocated as follows: one seat for West Africa and one seat to be rotated between East and Southern Africa. The candidates proposed by the Group of African States, namely, Mr. Kelapile (Botswana) and Mr. Ahounou (Côte d'Ivoire), had been endorsed by the Heads of State and Government of the

African Union at their Summit Meeting held at Maputo in July 2003.

23. **Mr. Mahiga** (United Republic of Tanzania) drew the Committee's attention to document A/C.5/58/5, in which it was stated that a number of persons had been nominated by their respective Governments as candidates for election or re-election to the Advisory Committee. The nomination of Mr. Mselle, the current Chairman of the Advisory Committee, was the result of a decision of the Tanzanian Government that was in conformity with the relevant provisions of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, in particular rule 156, which provided that the members of the Advisory Committee should be selected on the basis of broad geographical representation and personal qualifications and experience. He requested that his statement be duly reflected in the summary record of the meeting under agenda item 17 (a).

24. **The Chairman** said that since the number of candidates from two regional groups, namely, the Group of Eastern European States and the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, corresponded to the number of vacancies for those groups, he took it that the Committee wished to recommend by acclamation the appointment of the candidates in question.

25. *It was so decided.*

26. *The Committee recommended to the General Assembly the appointment of Mr. Abraszewski (Poland) and Mr. Maycock (Barbados) to membership of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2004.*

27. **The Chairman** called attention to rule 94 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and invited the Committee to elect by secret ballot two of the three candidates for the seats for the Group of African States. Recalling rule 93 of the rules of procedure, he invited the Committee to also elect by secret ballot one of the three candidates for the seat for the Group of Asian States.

28. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Ms. Pehrman (Finland), Ms. Samayoa-Recari (Guatemala) and Ms. Lalić-Smajević (Serbia and Montenegro) acted as tellers.*

29. *A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

Group of African States

Number of ballot papers:	187
Number of valid ballots:	187
Abstentions:	2
Number of members voting:	185
Required majority:	93
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Kelapile (Botswana):	165
Mr. Ahounou (Côte d'Ivoire)	148
Mr. Mselle (United Republic of Tanzania)	53

Group of Asian States

Number of ballot papers:	187
Invalid ballots:	1
Number of valid ballots:	186
Abstentions:	2
Number of members voting:	184
Required majority:	93
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Sharma (Nepal):	78
Mr. Sun Joun-yung (Republic of Korea)	57
Mr. Mabilangan (Philippines)	49

30. *Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Kelapile (Botswana) and Mr. Ahounou (Côte d'Ivoire) were recommended for appointment as members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2004.*

31. **The Chairman** said that since none of the candidates for the seat reserved for the Group of Asian States had obtained the required majority, the Committee should take a second vote.

32. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Ms. Pehrman (Finland), Ms. Samayoa-Recari (Guatemala) and Ms. Lalić-Smajević (Serbia and Montenegro) acted as tellers.*

33. *A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

Number of ballot papers:	187
Invalid ballots:	1
Number of valid ballots:	186
Abstentions:	1
Number of members voting:	185
Required majority:	93

Number of votes obtained:

Mr. Sharma (Nepal):	113
Mr. Sun Joun-yung (Republic of Korea)	72

34. *Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Sharma (Nepal) was recommended for appointment to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2004.*

35. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to document A/58/101/Add.1, in which the Secretary-General informed the Assembly that Mr. Thorne (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) had resigned from membership of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and that it was therefore necessary to appoint a person to fill the unexpired portion of his term of office, which expired on 31 December 2004. The Secretary-General also indicated that the British Government had nominated Mr. Richard Moon, whose candidacy had been endorsed by the Group of Western European and Other States. He took it that the Committee wished to recommend by acclamation the appointment of the candidate in question.

36. *It was so decided.*

37. *The Committee recommended to the General Assembly the appointment of Mr. Richard Moon (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for a term beginning on the date of his appointment and expiring on 31 December 2004.*

38. **Mr. Lovald** (Norway) congratulated the newly elected or re-elected members of the subsidiary organs. He had no doubt that they would do an excellent job. He noted, however, that very few women were members of those bodies. It was essential for women to participate in the conduct of affairs on an equal footing with men, at all levels — local, national and international. He recalled that the Secretary-General had recently pledged before the Third Committee to systematically promote gender parity in the Secretariat. Norway strongly encouraged all Member States to nominate women candidates to fill vacant posts in expert bodies.

39. *The meeting rose at noon.*